

# Project Proposal

**Proposal Title:** Youngsfield WMA rangeland improvement

**Proposal Number:** 1457

**DWR Region:** Southern Region

**Lead Agency:** DWR

**County:** Millard

**Project Manager:** Rhett Boswell

**PM Phone:** 4358656128

**Regional Priority:** Within Focus Area

**Project Type:** Terrestrial Habitat

**Proposed Start Date:** 9/1/2009

**Project Location:** Fillmore Wildlife Management Area (Youngsfield Unit) due east of Holden, Utah.

**Project Description:** 700 acre chaining and reseeding on Fillmore WMA (Youngsfield Unit)

**Description of Problem/Need:** Beneficial browse is being lost due to pinyon/juniper encroachment. As pinyon/juniper encroachment on these sagebrush dominated areas increases, the critical value these areas provide deer and elk is jeopardized. This area encompasses critical elk and deer winter habitat. Treating the proposed areas will restore and preserve the value of these areas and will allow the shrubsteppe habitat to support large elk and deer numbers.

**Objectives:** Improve crucial winter habitat for mule deer and elk by removing pinyon and juniper from important browse and sagebrush communities. Restore area to typical shrubsteppe habitat.

**Relevance to Strategic Plans:** The project focuses on shrubsteppe habitat identified as a priority in the WAP. In addition, it is intended to improve habitat for tier III species as identified as priority species in the WAP.

**Potential Risks:** Short term fuels increase from slash, potential for annual grass dominance with failed seed germination. The area is an existing grazing allotment, grazing will be suspended for two seasons after the treatment.

**Proposed Methods:** Pinyon and juniper will be mechanically removed on approximately 700 acres of pinyon-juniper encroached sagebrush steppe habitat by two passes of an anchor chain. Seed will be applied aerially either before chaining or after the first pass, allowing the chain to provide soil preparation and to cover the seed.

**Shapefile Name:** HPD 2010\GIS Shape Files - Proposals\SR\1457.shp

**Seed Source:** GBRC

**UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:**

**Proposed NEPA Action:**

**Proposed Arch Action:**

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring**      ☒ **Wildlife Monitoring**

**Monitoring Information:** Photo points documenting before and after views of the project will be established. These will be revisited periodically to document vegetative response to the treatment.  
A new range trend study was established in 2008 on the Youngsfield WMA.  
Area biologist will monitor deer and elk herds in area as part of regular monitoring of the Pahvant management Unit #21

**Grazing Management:** Area has been grazed as an allotment for many years, area will be rested for 2 to 3 years after treatment

## SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer	Elk	Brewer's Sparrow	Sage Sparrow
Sage Thrasher			

## LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
DWR	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>700</b>

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## PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Unfunded Balance	\$106,900.00		\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$106,900.00</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

## PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	chaining contract 700 ares @ \$80/acre	\$56,000.00	\$0.00
Contractual Services	Aerial seeding contract 700 acres @ \$9/acre	\$6,300.00	\$0.00
Seed (GBRC)	700 acres @ \$30/acre	\$21,000.00	\$0.00
Archaeological Survey	700 acres @ \$28/acre	\$19,600.00	\$0.00
Personal Services	time for flagging and contractor support	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Motor Pool	mileage to fillmore and back	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$106,900.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## Project Map:

